

The Growth of Railroads

Chapter 3 Lesson 1 pages 39-41

Before You Read

According to the illustration, which laborers built the Central Pacific Railroad?

According to the map on 41, The Central Pacific Railroad met which other railroad in Promontory Point in the Utah Territory?

What was one major railroad city?

As You Read

1. Which part of the country had railroads before the Civil War?
2. Why were local business owners and farmers eager to have a railroad?
3. Why did the US government decide to help building railroads?
4. What were land grants?
5. How much land did the US government give the railroad companies?
6. **Trans** means across. What do you think the **transcontinental** railroad meant?
7. Where did the Central Pacific Railroad begin?
8. Where did the Union Pacific Railroad begin?
9. Who did the dangerous work of building the Central Pacific Railroad in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California?
10. Which immigrant group worked for the Union Pacific?

11. Where did the two railroad companies finally meet, completing the Transcontinental Railroad?
12. When was a national network of railroads completed?
13. What happened to the costs of moving people and goods when the railroads were completed?
14. How many time zones is the US divided into?

Read the **Biography of Leland Stanford** and answer the following questions:

1. What business did Leland Stanford and his brothers create during the California Gold Rush?
2. Before the Transcontinental Railroad, what were three ways that people from the East traveled to the West?
3. How long did these journeys take?
4. How did Stanford and the Big Four raise money to build their railroad?
5. List one political accomplishment of Leland Stanford?
6. Which nearby university is named after Leland Stanford?